60th D-Day anniversary sparks interest aboard Depot

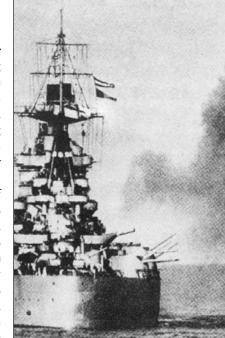
LANCE CPL. JUSTIN J. SHEMANSKI STAFF WRITER

While the Marines were preparing to invade the Marianas Islands in the spring of 1944 as a part of their triumphant island-hopping campaign in the Pacific Theater, forces including the U.S. Army and Navy were preparing for an even greater assault of their own, halfway around the world.

On June 5, 1944, a grand armada of allied warships left their English ports and began a journey that would end in all out battle. It was in the early hours of June 6 when the ships finally came within range of their target. They released a cargo of 73,000 anxious American servicemen who crouched together in 3,000 landing crafts, nervously awaiting the final order to attack the German troop-infested beachheads of Normandy, France.

This was a day in which allied forces banded together as one as they parachuted behind enemy lines and sloshed through neck-deep waters to storm bullet-plagued beaches. It was a day when scores of wounded men spent their last breathes screaming for morphine to end their pain, while the hot German lead still burned within. But, their deaths were not in vain. Normandy was a major defeat of Hitler's war machine.

This year will commemorate the 60th anniversary of the D-Day invasion at Normandy. It will remember the men and women who put country before self to defend not just their homeland's freedom, but also the world's.



Special to The Boot The 5000-vessel D-Day armada carried more than 180,000 allied troops and nearly 30,000 vehicles across the English Channel to the French beaches. More than 300 planes dropped 13,000 bombs over coastal Normandy during the advance of the invasion.

"It was definitely one of the single most important days in our history," said Army National Guard Lt. Col. William Keliipaakaua, whose son Adam, graduated from recruit training here May 28. "I'm very thankful that those men put everything on the line to defend the freedom that we are able to enjoy today. It's hard to imagine what would have happened if they hadn't."

According to a special D-Day anniversary edition



By nightfall on June 6, more than 9,000 allied soldiers were dead or wounded, but more than 100,000 had made it ashore, securing French coastal villages. And within weeks, supplies were being unloaded at Utah and Omaha beachheads at the rate of over 20,000 tons per day.

Magazine, the roots of the cause for fateful June morning nearly a year After years of planning and developthis massive invasion date back 65 years ago. World War II started out as a local, European conflict between Germany and Poland amidst Hitler's campaign for supremacy, but by the beginning of 1944, it had swelled to an all out world war. With only a small foothold in Italy, the allied forces needed a new strategy, fast. During the 1943 Trident Conference, Britain and the U.S. devised a plan to launch a cross-channel invasion into German occupied France, and on that

later, 180,000 troops landed on the beaches of Normandy.

"They made the ultimate sacrifice," said Cpl. Thomas Juda, administrative clerk with the Provost Marshall's Office. "I think it's really important to get the word out about the anniversaries of events like this and have days like Memorial Day to remember what those guys did for us ... to keep their memories alive."

Washington, D.C., will do just that.

summit in France; six countries

(France, Germany, Italy, Japan,

the United Kingdom and the

United States) participated.

Canada joined the group at the

San Juan Summit of 1976, and

the European Community began

participating at the London

Summit of 1977. Starting with

the 1994 Naples Summit, Russia

attended the political sessions

and at the 1998 Birmingham

Summit, Russia began participat-

The presidency of the G8, and

responsibility of hosting the G8

Summit, rotates each year.

ing in all sessions.

ment, the monument, which sits opposite the Lincoln Memorial, was dedicated Saturday, just days before the D-Day anniversary, with hundreds of World War II veterans in attendance.

Many of them witnessed the horrors of the D-Day invasion, and attended the dedication in an effort to keep alive the memories of their former comrades, who never made it back. The fallen heroes who sacrificed A new World War II monument in everything they had for the freedom

> Italy hosted the G8 Summit in Genoa in 2001, Canada hosted in Kananaskis in 2002, and France hosted in Evian in 2003. The United Kingdom will host the G8 Summit in 2005 and Russia will host in 2006.

> Sea Island is located on the southern portion of the Georgia coastline, 80 miles from Savannah.

> Previously, the United States hosted G8 summits in Dorado Beach, Puerto Rico (1976), Williamsburg, Va. (1983), Houston (1990) and Denver

SUMMIT, continued from Page 1

that all personnel be especially vigilant of their surroundings and report anything suspicious to either PMO at 228-3444 or local law enforcement.

"We don't expect protests in South Carolina, but there will be some in Savannah," he said. "There are going to be protestors and delays in the area. [Individuals] should avoid traveling there during those days or plan extra time."

presidency of the G8 from France at the beginning of 2004. President Bush, chairman of the 2004 G8 Summit, will meet with the G8 leaders in the informal and relaxed setting of Sea Island.

The G8 Summit brings together the leaders of the world's major industrial democracies, which include Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The European Union also attends the G8 Summit, represented by the president of the European Commission and the The United States assumed the leader of the country holding the mit. At previous summits, lead-

"Expect significant delays when traveling to Hilton Head Island and Savannah. There are going to be protestors and delays in the area. [Individuals] should avoid traveling there during those days or plan extra time."

- Maj. Nick Pugliese, Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Officer with G-3

presidency of the European Council. The European Union has observer status at the sumers have discussed a wide range of international economic, political and security issues.

The G8 began with a 1975

CARD,

June 1 - August 2

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notebooks and cleaning supplies.

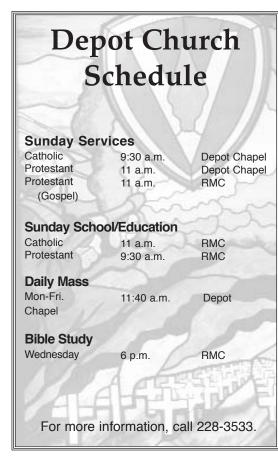
Carlough added another positive aspect of the government purchase card is that the online support is helpful.

"You can always view your on-line statements and also buy supplies and replacement parts," she said.

Even though the capability to use a method such as this to make purchases is helpful, it can also lead to trouble if it is not regulated and gets abused. "We have a good system of checks and bal-

ances to ensure they are being used properly," Reeves said. "One of the main reasons I feel we won this award is because of our internal

Hardy added the win was the result of a team effort between program coordinators, cardholders, Comptroller personnel, and the command aboard Parris Island.



Depot Movie Theater



PG-13; Fri. 7 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m.



Hellboy;PG-13 Fri. 9 p.m. Sun. 4:30 p.m.



Jersey Girl; PG-13 Sat. 7 p.m.



The Girl Next Door; R Sun. 7 p.m.

June 4, 2004 FRI, JUN 25!

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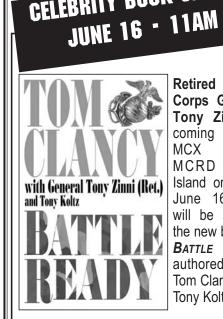
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Retired Marine Corps General Tony Zinni is coming to the MCX aboard MCRD Parris Island on Wed, June 16, and will be signing the new book BATTLE READY, authored with Tom Clancy and Tony Koltz.



June 4 **BOSSES NIGHT** Happy Hour & hors d'oeuvres 4-6pm karaoke 5-10pm



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